

Message Text

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SUBJ: 29TH UNGA: SECOND COMMITTEE-OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES
FOR DEVELOPMENT, ITEM 45

SUMMARY: SECOND COMMITTEE BEGAN CONSIDERATION ITEM 45
P.M. 7 OCTOBER HEARING STATEMENTS PETERSON, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE
UNDP; LABOUISSIE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNICEF; SALAS, EX-
ECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNFPA; PATEL, DEPUTY ADMINISTRATOR,
UNDP; AND GODON CO-CORINATOR OF VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME.
COMMISSION FOR TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION WILL ADDRESS COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, 9 OCTOBER. COMMITTEE CONTINUED DEBATE OF REPORT OF
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF UNITAR BUT DECIDED TO POSTPONE ACTION
ON THIS QUESTION UNTIL LATER IN THE WEEK IN
ORDER TO FACILITATE CONSULTATIONS AMONG DELEGATIONS ON
A DRAFT RESOLUTION (DOCUMENT A/C.2/L.1344) AND AN AMEND-
MENT TO IT (DOCUMENT A/C.2/L.1345) , SUBMITTED THIS
MORNING. COMMITTEE ALSO RESUMED GENERAL DEBATE TO HEAR
STATEMENT BY REPRESENTATIVE OF PORTUGAL. (END SUMMAR)
1. INTRODUCTION OF UNDP REPORT. PETERSON SAID WORLD
FACED A GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS OF UNKNOWN DIMENSIONS
AND, WHILE NO INSTANT SOLUTION EXISTED FOR SUCH
UNPRECEDENTED PROBLEMS, THERE WAS A STRUCTURE OF
INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION ON WHICH TO BUILD AND A
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RESERVOIR OF EXPERIENCE FROM WHICH TO DRAW HE REFERRED ACTION BEING TAKEN BY THE UNDP IN THE FIELD OF ENERGY, AND STATED MORE THAN QUARTER OF ITS RESOURCES HAD LONG BEEN DEVOTED TO INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION. WITHIN THE LAST FEW MONTHS, HE WENT ON, THE UNDP HAD EVOLVED GUIDELINES THAT FINALLY PLACED THE RESREP AND THE FIELD OFFICES IN THE CENTRE OF OPERATIONS. EXECUTIVE AGENCIES, HAD BEEN URGED PROCEED ALONG PARALLEL LINES OF DECENTRALIZATION AND DELEGATION, PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO PROJECT MANAGERS AND TEAM LEADERS. THE CONCURRENT AIM AT HEADQUARTERS HE WENT ON, WAS TO MOVE THE REGIONAL BUREAUS AWAY FROM THE DETAILED REVIEW AND REVISION OF FIELD WORK IN WHICH THEY HAD BEEN ENGAGED AND TOWARDS A MORE SUBSTANTIVE ROLE IN TERMS OF POLICY GUIDANCE AND A MORE SUPPORTIVE ROLE IN TERMS OF ADMINISTRATION. EXPRESSED REGRET THAT, TO DATE, GOVERNMENTS HAD BEEN SLOW IN RECOGNIZING IMPORTANCE REGIONAL PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES, HOPED THEIR PLACE IN THE PROGRAMME WOULD GROW AS THEIR POTENTIAL BECAME MORE WIDELY RECOGNIZED. SAID THE "RAVAGES OF GLOBAL INFLATION" MUST NOT BE ALLOWED DIMINISH RESULTS IN THE FIELD AT A TIME WHEN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES REQUIRED TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION MORE THAN AT ANY TIME IN THE PAST. THE THREAT TO THE INTEGRITY OF THE PROGRAMMES CALLED FOR A RECONSIDERATION OF THE TARGETED RATES OF GROWTH IN VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNDP.

2. INTRODUCTION OF UNICEF REPORT. LABOUISSIE, SAID UNICEF, EVEN UNDER MOST OPTIMISTIC ASSUMPTIONS CONCERNING ITS SPOTENTIAL RESOURCES, COULD ONLY PLAY SMALL PART IN MEETING THE TOTAL ASSISTANCE REQUIREMENTS CHILDREN IN DEVELOPMENT COUNTRIES. CALLED ATTENTION UNICEF EXECUTIVE BOARDS' "DECLARATION OF ANY EMERGENCY FOR CHILDREN IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS A RESULT OF THE CURRENT ECONOMIC CRISIS." IN ASIA, IMPORTED FOOD SUPPLIES WERE BEING SUBJECTED TO DRASTIC CUTS. AS A RESULT, UNICEF WAS BEING REQUESTED TO HELP IN THE INTRODUCTION OF A CHILD-FEEDING SCHEME BASED ON EXPANDED PRODUCTION OF LOCAL FOODS. TO ALLEVIATE SITUATION, UNICEF CALLED FOR A GREATER GLOBAL AWARENESS OF THE VARIOUS DANGERS THREATENING TODAY'S CHILDREN. THIS UNCLASSIFIED

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EFFORT COULD BE FURTHERED IF THE ASSEMBLY ITSELF COULD LEND ITS VOICE

SUPPORT UNICEF EXECUTIVE BOARD'S DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY AID AND IN SUPPORT OF ITS APPEAL FOR FUNDS. CONTRIBUTING GOVERNMENTS SHOULD ALSO HELP THE MOST AFFECTED COUNTRIES MEET THE INTERNAL COSTS OF SUSTAINING SOCIAL SERVICES AND COVERING THE NEEDS OF THEIR

CHILDRED. HE ALSO URGED UNDER SPECIAL FUND, PROGRAMMES BENEFITTING CHILDREN AND THEIR MOTHERS SHOULD RECEIVE AN APPROPRIATE SHARE OF THE FUNDS' RESOURCES.

3. STATEMENT BY UNFPA HEAD. RAFAEL SALAS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON UNFPA SAID FUND NOW HAD A TOTAL OF 72 DONOR COUNTRIES, INCLUDING 52 DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, AND HAD SUPPORTED A TOTAL OF NEARLY 1,000 PROJECTS IN MORE THAN 90 COUNTRIES. THE WPY HAD HAD ENORMOUS IMPACT ON WORLD CONSCIOUSNESS. ONE OF ITS EFFECTS HAD BEEN STIMULATE DEMAND FOR THE FUND'S ASSISTANCE. HE NOW ESITMATED ABOUT \$500MILLION WOULD BE NEEDED FOR THE 1974-1977 PERIOD TO MEET THE MOST URGENT REQUIREMENTS. VICE PREVIOUS FIGURES OF \$316 MILLION AND , FUND WOULD REQUEST INCRECASED APPROVAL AUTHORITY AT THE JANUARY SESSION OF THE GC OF UNDP.

4. CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND. PATEL, PRESENTING REPORT OF CDF SAID FUND HAD MOVED INTO ACTIVE STAGE AND AT PRESENT PROSSESSED \$11 MILLION. ITS TOTAL RESOUCES SHOULD BE FULLY COMMITTED DURING FIRST HALF OF 1975 . RECALLED ADMINISTRATOR HAD SUGGESTED TO GC UNDP FUND SHOULD BEAR ITS OWN ADMINISTRATIVE EXPANSES RATHER THAN TAX THE ALREADY OVER-BURDENED ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET OF THE UNDP. SAID BASED ON WHATEVER DECISION THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MIGHT TAKE ON MATTER, ADMINISTRATION MIGHT PRESENT BUDGET NEXT SESSION OF GC.

5. GORDON, CO-ORDINATOR UNV SAID PLACEMENT RATE HAD DOUBLED IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS. AT PRESENT, 175 VOLUN- 5334 2343 -57-))6 8, 34VICE, COMPARED TO 135 AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR. IN THE COMING YEAR, UNV WOULD INCREASE ITS PLACEMENT RATE TO ABOUT 30 A MONTH, WHICH WOULD ENABLE IT MEET PROJECTED PROGRAMME OF 50 VOLUNTEERS IN THE FIELD BY EARLY 1976. PALCEMENTS IN THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, NOW MADE UP 36 UNCLASSIFIED

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PERCENT OF THE VOLUNTEERS IN THE FIELD. SAID A RAPIDLY GROWING PROGRAMME WOULD REQUIRE AN INCREASED FINANCIAL INPUT. THE SPECIAL VOLUNTARY FUND, THE ONLY SOURCE OF FUNDS FOR RECRUITMENT OF VOLUNTEERS FORM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WOULD NEED MAJOR REPLENISH- MENT NEXT YEAR IF UNV WAS TO RECRUIT THE 150 OR SO VOLUNTEERS FROM THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THAT IT EXPECTED.

6. GENERAL DEBATE -PORTUGAL. IN STATEMENT RESUMED GENERAL DEBATE PORTUGAL SAID WAS IN IN PROCESS TRANSFORMING A WAR ECONOMY INTO AN ECONOMY OF PEACE. THUS, PORTUGAL HAD NATIONALIZED BANKS TO GAIN TOTAL CONTROL OVER MONETARY POLICY, HAD IMPROVED INDUSTRIAL REALTIONS, AND HAD INSTITUTED A MINIMUM WAGE POLICY. PORTUGAL

WELCOMED ALL FOREIGN INVESTMENTS TO IMPROVE ITS
DOMESTICE ECONOMIC SITUATION. PORTUGAL OPEN ALL
POSSIBLE FORMS OF ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION WITH ALL
COUNTRIES. ESTABLISHMENT DEMOCRATIC FREEDOM HAD
GIVEN PROTUGAL RIGHT ASK EXTENSION OF ALL BENEFITS
DERIVING FROM ITS STATUS AS A DEVELOPING COUNTRY,
AND RIGHT FULL AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION ALL BODIES
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UN.
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